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## PATENT APPLICATION

### IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of  
Kazuo KURODA, et al.

Appln. No.: 09/841,249

Confirmation No.: 5288

Filed: April 25, 2001

For: INFORMATION DISTRIBUTING APPARATUS AND METHOD, INFORMATION  
RECORDING MEDIUM, AND INFORMATION RECORDING APPARATUS AND  
METHOD

Docket No: Q64260

Group Art Unit: 2651

Examiner: NOT YET ASSIGNED

### STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.704(d)

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450  
Sir:

The undersigned hereby states, upon information and belief:

That each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement filed  
concurrently herewith was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart  
foreign application, and that the communication was not received by any individual designated in  
37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of said Information Disclosure  
Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

*Paul E. D'Amico Reg. 33,102*

Darryl Mexic

Registration No. 23,063

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WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: September 24, 2004



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METHOD

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450  
Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants hereby notify the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the document which is listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

A copy of the listed document is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under § 1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required. Nevertheless, since a statement can be made, a statement is submitted herewith.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

U.S. Appln. No.: 09/841,249

Attorney Docket No.: Q64260

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed thirty days or fewer from the communication from a foreign patent office and a Statement Under 37 C.F.R. §1.704(d) is attached.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicants submit the following explanation:

***Submitted herewith is an English language abstract and Computer Generated English translation of Japanese Patent Laid-open Publication No. 9-190667, which abstract and translation constitute a concise statement of relevance of the reference.***

The submission of the listed document is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicants do not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

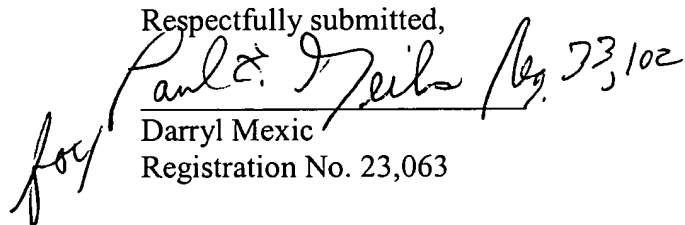
The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

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Registration No. 23,063

Date: September 24, 2004

Substitute for Form 1449 A &amp; B/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT***(use as many sheets as necessary)**Complete if Known*

Application Number	09/841,249
Confirmation Number	5288
Filing Date	April 25, 2001
First Named Inventor	Kazuo KURODA
Art Unit	2651
Examiner Name	NOT YET ASSIGNED
Attorney Docket Number	Q64260

Sheet	1	of	1
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**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)		
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
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		US			
		US			

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)			
		JP	9-190667	A	7/22/1997	TOSHIBA CORP	Yes/ Abstract

**NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation <sup>6</sup>

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov), MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.